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DEC 03 2007

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. - 28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) A method for grasping a selected portion of tissue from a surface of a body cavity, comprising the steps of:

inserting into the body cavity an insertion device;

advancing a substantially transparent flexible cup through a lumen of the insertion device in a folded insertion configuration;

advancing the flexible cup distally from the lumen of the insertion device, wherein the flexible cup deploys to an operative configuration in which the flexible cup is substantially funnel shaped as it exits the lumen;

visually positioning the flexible cup adjacent to the selected portion of tissue by observing the selected portion of tissue at least partially through the flexible cup; and

applying a vacuum pressure to an interior of the flexible cup, the vacuum pressure causing to draw the selected portion of tissue to move from a position outside of the flexible cup to a position in an interior of the flexible cup thereinto.

30. (Original) The method according to claim 29, further comprising the step of withdrawing the flexible cup proximally relative to the insertion device to alter a position of the selected portion of tissue relative to the insertion device.

31. (Original) The method according to claim 29, wherein the insertion device includes an endoscope, and wherein the visually positioning step includes the sub steps of:

positioning the endoscope to view the selected portion of tissue; and

maneuvering the transparent flexible cup relative to the endoscope to observe the selected portion of tissue through the flexible cup so that the selected portion

of tissue and a safety margin area therearound are substantially centered within the transparent flexible cup.

32. (Currently Amended) A method for grasping a selected portion of tissue from a surface of a body cavity, comprising the steps of:

inserting into the body cavity an insertion device;

advancing a substantially transparent flexible cup through a lumen of the insertion device in a folded insertion configuration;

advancing the flexible cup distally from the lumen of the insertion device, wherein the flexible cup deploys to an operative configuration in which the flexible cup is substantially funnel shaped as it exits the lumen;

visually positioning the flexible cup adjacent to the selected portion of tissue by observing the selected portion of tissue at least partially through the flexible cup; and

applying a vacuum pressure to an interior of the flexible cup, the vacuum pressure causing to draw the selected portion of tissue to move from a position outside of the flexible cup to a position in an interior of the flexible cup thereinto; The method according to claim 29;

further comprising the step of, after applying the vacuum pressure to the interior of the flexible cup, providing a positive pressure to the flexible cup to at least partially eject the selected portion of tissue from the flexible cup.

33. (Original) The method according to claim 29, further comprising the steps of:

fastening portions of tissue around a periphery of the selected portion of tissue; and

severing the selected portion of tissue from the surrounding tissue.

34. (Original) The method according to claim 33, further comprising the step of withdrawing the flexible cup into the lumen while maintaining vacuum pressure within the flexible cup to retain the severed tissue within the flexible cup.

35. (Currently Amended) A method for grasping a selected portion of tissue from a surface of a body cavity, comprising the steps of:

inserting into the body cavity an insertion device;

advancing a substantially transparent flexible cup through a lumen of the insertion device in a folded insertion configuration;

advancing the flexible cup distally from the lumen of the insertion device, wherein the flexible cup deploys to an operative configuration in which the flexible cup is substantially funnel shaped as it exits the lumen;

visually positioning the flexible cup adjacent to the selected portion of tissue by observing the selected portion of tissue at least partially through the flexible cup; and

applying a vacuum pressure to an interior of the flexible cup, the vacuum pressure causing to draw the selected portion of tissue to move from a position outside of the flexible cup to a position in an interior of the flexible cup thereinto; -The method according to claim 29; further comprising the steps of:

fastening portions of tissue around a periphery of the selected portion of tissue; and

severing the selected portion of tissue from the surrounding tissue. -The method according to claim 33;

wherein the portions of tissue around the periphery of the selected portion of tissue are fastened together by stapling.